

Lukas Weidinger  
Portfolio  
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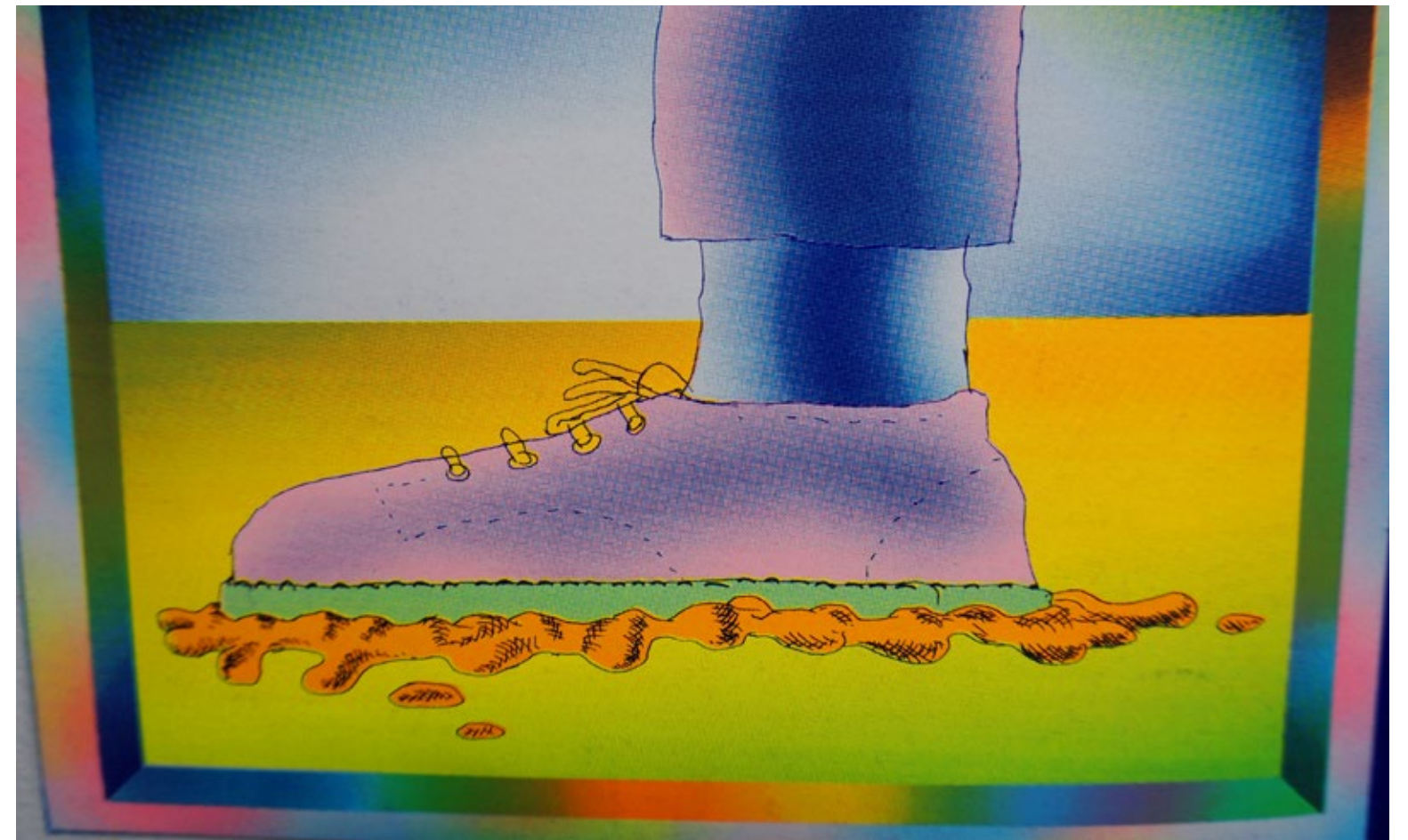
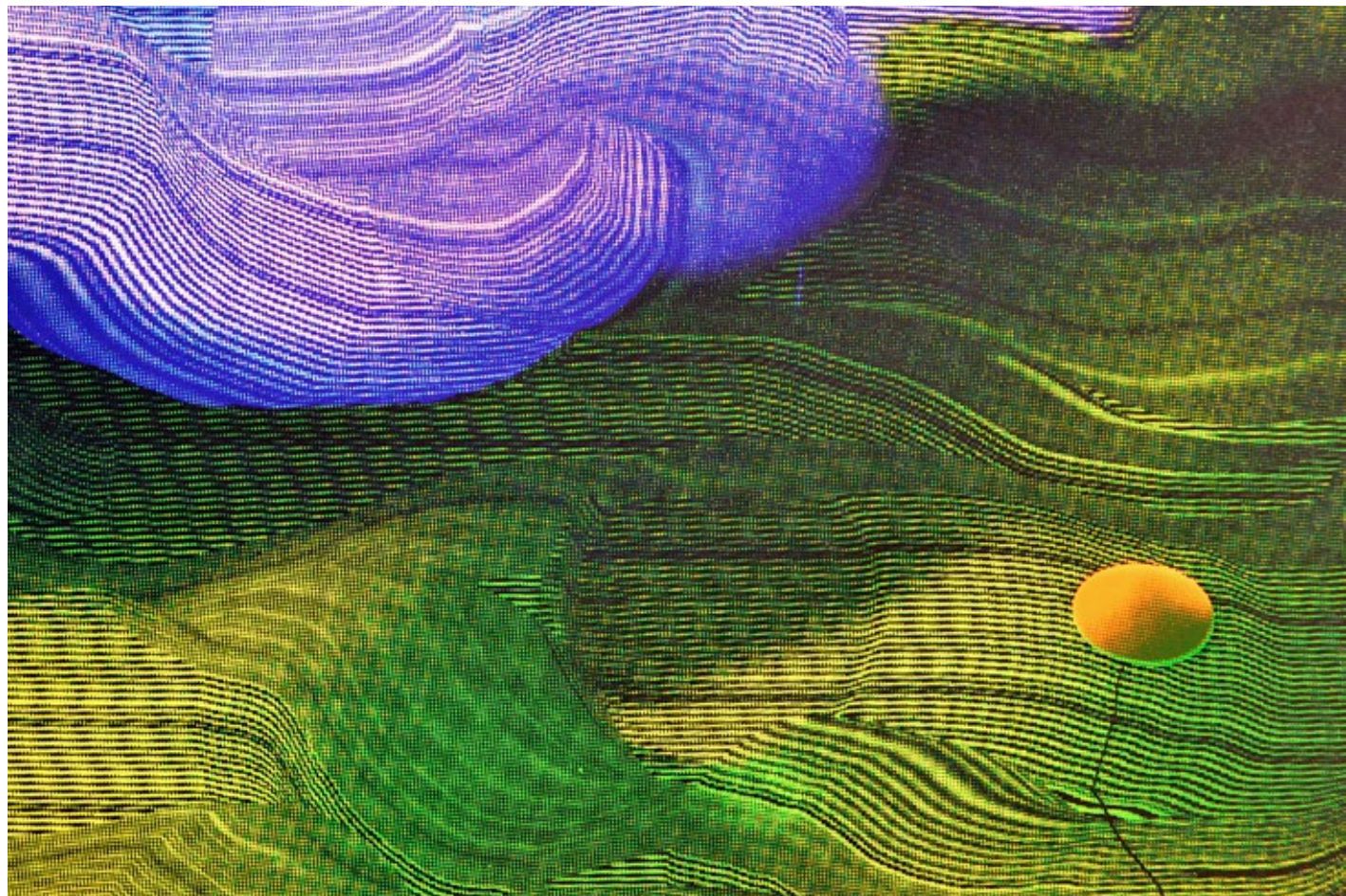
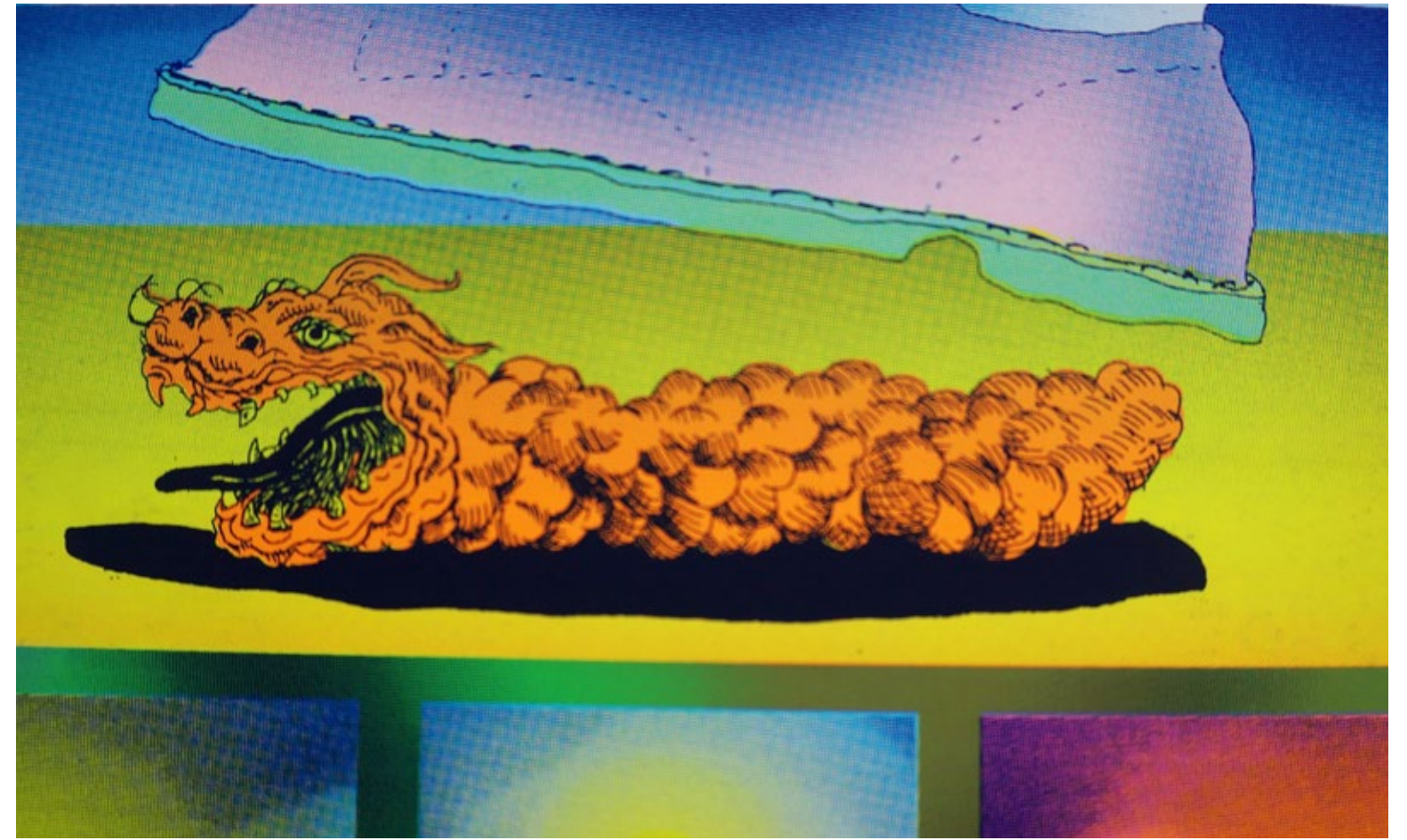
»RAD revue #1«  
experimental image revue.  
collaboration with paul d'orlando.  
16 pages, limited edition, 50 exemplaires, 4-colored silkscreenprint.  
**2018**















»ISN'T IT PERFECT?«

editorial illustration for ELEPHANT magazine, london

2017







# Let There

ILLUSTRATIONS  
BY LUKAS WEIDINGER

# Be Life!

Birth is something we have all experienced (if only as the baby), yet it remains a mysterious event—none of us remember our own birth, and its true details are shrouded from those who haven't given birth. Here we look at the facts and figures—and see how birth has fed through into the sci-fi and fantasy imagination, and changed in unimaginable ways in the twenty-first century.

## CRUNCHING NUMBERS

### POPULATION GROWTH, 2010–2015

QATAR +6.65%

OMAN +6.45%

LEBANON +5.99%

AUSTRALIA +1.46%

GLOBAL +1.19%

US +0.72%

UK +0.65%

GERMANY +0.20%

RUSSIA +0.04%

JAPAN -0.09%

### DEFINITIONS OF "BIRTH"

*The emergence of a baby or other young from the body of its mother; the start of life as a physically separate being. The beginning or coming into existence of something. A person's origin, descent, or ancestry*  
(Source: Oxford Dictionaries)

### OLDEST MOTHER

Maria del Carmen  
Bousada de Lara, 66 years old  
29 December 2006  
Caesarean section to twin boys.  
Received IVF treatment in America  
after being rejected in Spain

### MOST BIRTH DATES MEMORIZED

Boris Nikolai Konrad memorized  
21 birth dates at the Purist  
Bar, Munich, Germany on  
14 February 2011

### TWINS WITH THE LONGEST INTERVAL BETWEEN BIRTHS

87 days, 1 hour and 45 minutes apart  
Mother: Maria Jones-Elliot

### EARLIEST EXAMPLE OF A LIVE BIRTH

Prehistoric armoured fish  
A fossilized 380-million-year-old mother and  
embryo with a connecting umbilical cord,  
discovered in the Gogo area of Western  
Australia in 2005. Named *Materpiscis  
attenboroughi*, after the legendary Sir David  
Attenborough

### TWINS WITH THE SHORTEST INTERVAL BETWEEN BIRTHS

22.976 seconds apart  
Mother: Amanda Dorris

### MOST CHILDREN BORN TO AN INDIVIDUAL COUPLE

69 in 16 pairs of twins, 7 sets of triplets  
and 4 sets of quadruplets. Born between  
1725 and 1765, in a total of 27 births.  
Parents: Mr and Mrs Feodor Vassilyev

### LOWEST BIRTH WEIGHT RECORDED FOR A SURVIVING INFANT

260g, born to Rumaisa Rahman (USA)  
19 September 2004 at 25 weeks 6 days  
gestation

### MOST SURVIVING CHILDREN IN A SINGLE BIRTH

8 (6 boys, 2 girls). Conceived with IVF  
and delivered in California

### HEAVIEST TRIPLETS

10.9kg  
Born to Mary McDermott (UK)  
on 18 November 1914



# READY, STEADY SPAWN!

## ASEXUAL REPRODUCTION

**FISSION**  
A cell's contents are duplicated, the cell divides. (e.g. prokaryotes)

**VEGETATIVE PROPAGATION**  
A type of asexual reproduction found in plants that does not require the production of seeds or spores. (e.g. dandelion bulbs and dahlia tubers)

**AGAMOGENESIS**  
Any form of reproduction that does not require a male gamete. (e.g. apomictic seeds, bulbs and "plantlets")

**BUDDING**  
A new organism grows on an existing one, beginning its life as a fully separate organism from its "parent" organism. (e.g. proteins, yeast and some viruses)

**SPOROGENESIS**  
Organism produces spores as part of its natural lifecycle. In the right conditions, the spores are separated from the original organism and dispersed (e.g. by air or water). They are then considered autonomous and may develop into fully grown organisms. (e.g. in conical fungi aspergillus and penicillium)

**FRAGMENTATION**  
Organism splits and develops new, genetically identical organisms from each resulting fragment (e.g. segmented worms and planarians)

## ORGANISMS WITH THE HIGHEST REPRODUCTION RATES

**AFRICAN DRIVER ANT**  
3-4 million eggs in 25 days

**BLUEFIN TUNA**  
10 million eggs a year

**STURGEON FISH**  
2.5 million eggs a year

**SEAHORSES**  
2000 eggs per pregnancy

**NAKED MOLE RAT**  
Average litter size of 28

**RABBITS**  
Litters up to 14 kits

## UNUSUAL ANIMAL MOTHERS

**OCTOPUSES**  
Female octopuses, who lay their thousands of eggs in intricate groupings, then guard them for a month or two while they hatch, protecting them from predators and directing water current to ensure they get enough oxygen

**POLAR BEARS**  
Polar bears often sleep through their birthing sessions, as they are in a hibernation-like state

**ELEPHANTS**  
Elephants deliver the world's largest babies, which are born fully blind. Mothers spend time eating as much as possible, so they can provide the best milk

**ORANGUTANS**  
Orangutans care for their young for two full years. For the first four months they never break physical contact, with babies clinging to their stomachs. They breastfeed until the young are five years old, the longest dependence period of all wild animals

## WAYS TO INDUCE LABOUR

**PINEAPPLE**

**CUMIN TEA**

**NIPPLE STIMULATION**

**SEX**

**WALKING UP STAIRS**

**BANANAS**

**GALLOPING**

**FOOT MASSAGE**

**SPICY FOODS**

**GARLIC**

**CLEANING THE HOUSE**

**LIQUORICE**

**RED RASPBERRY LEAF TEA**



## FUTURE BIRTH

**DOLLY THE SHEEP**  
First animal to be cloned via "adult cell cloning". Named after Dolly Parton. Born 5 July at Roslin Institute, Edinburgh, 1996. 6 years 5 months younger than her genetically identical "mother". Survived to maturity, naturally produced offspring, was euthanized due to progressive lung disease and arthritis, not connected to being cloned. She was the only lamb that survived to adulthood, after 277 attempts

**SHADOW AND CHANCE**  
A British couple spent £67,000 producing a pair of puppies cloned from their boxer dog Dylan, after he died of a brain tumour

2016  
A South Korean company, Sooam Biotech, was producing 500 cloned dog embryos a day

**ZHONG ZHONG AND HAU HAU**  
First successful cloning of primates was in late 2017 in China

2014  
Chinese scientists were reported to have 70–80% success rates for cloning pigs

### ARTIFICIAL WOMBS

Ectogenesis: the invention of a complete external womb

First incubator built in France in 1880

A human embryo has been kept alive for 13 days outside the womb

Lambs at the equivalent age of a premature human foetus aged 22–24 weeks survived after growing in a bio bag in 2016

**BENEFITS**  
Can save premature babies' lives outside the womb, help infertile couples, provide LGBTQ+ with alternative fertility choices and allow older parents to have children

## PLAYING GOD WITH BIRTH

### BITE ME!

**ROSEMARY'S BABY, 1968**  
Giving birth to a baby spawned by Satan is somewhat of a horror cliché now, but the standout film must be Rosemary's Baby, in which Mia Farrow's character discovers her baby is the Devil's child

**THE MATRIX, 1999**  
"There are fields—endless fields—where human beings are no longer born, we are grown." The famous shot from the film shows row upon row of human-filled pods, in which unknowing homo sapiens are born, live and die, plugged in to the Matrix

**THE WALKING DEAD, 2012**  
The character of Lori Grimes is killed by a self-prescribed emergency C-section, surrounded by a horde of zombies, in order to save her baby's life

The horror, sci-fi and fantasy genres can be trusted to offer up some truly grotesque visions of new life—and birth has been reimagined again and again throughout film

**ALIEN, 1979**  
In Ridley Scott's classic the human hosts grow alien young inside them, foetus-like. Once ready for the outside world, said aliens burst swiftly out of the chest. Cue, many, many gory sequels

**GAME OF THRONES, 2012**  
In season two we see the spooky priestess Melisandre give birth to her baby—who is not a human, but a massive, apparently conscious shadow who goes on to kill its uncle

**MOTHER!, 2017**  
By the time Jennifer Lawrence's character gives birth to her baby things are pretty dire, as her whole house is invaded by baying hordes in apocalyptic style—the birth is pained and graphic, the ending miserable. It has been suggested that the character of Mother is a metaphor for the earth—barely able to keep sustaining our demands upon its resources



ILLUSTRATIONS  
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# BeL



Birth is something we have all experienced (it remains a mysterious event—none of us remember its true details are shrouded from those who do) we look at the facts and figures—and see how the sci-fi and fantasy imagination, and change the twenty-first century.

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CUMIN TEA



NIPPLE STIMULATION



SEX

WALKING UP STAIRS

FOOT MASSAGE

BANANAS



GALLOPING

RED RASPBERRY LEAF TEA

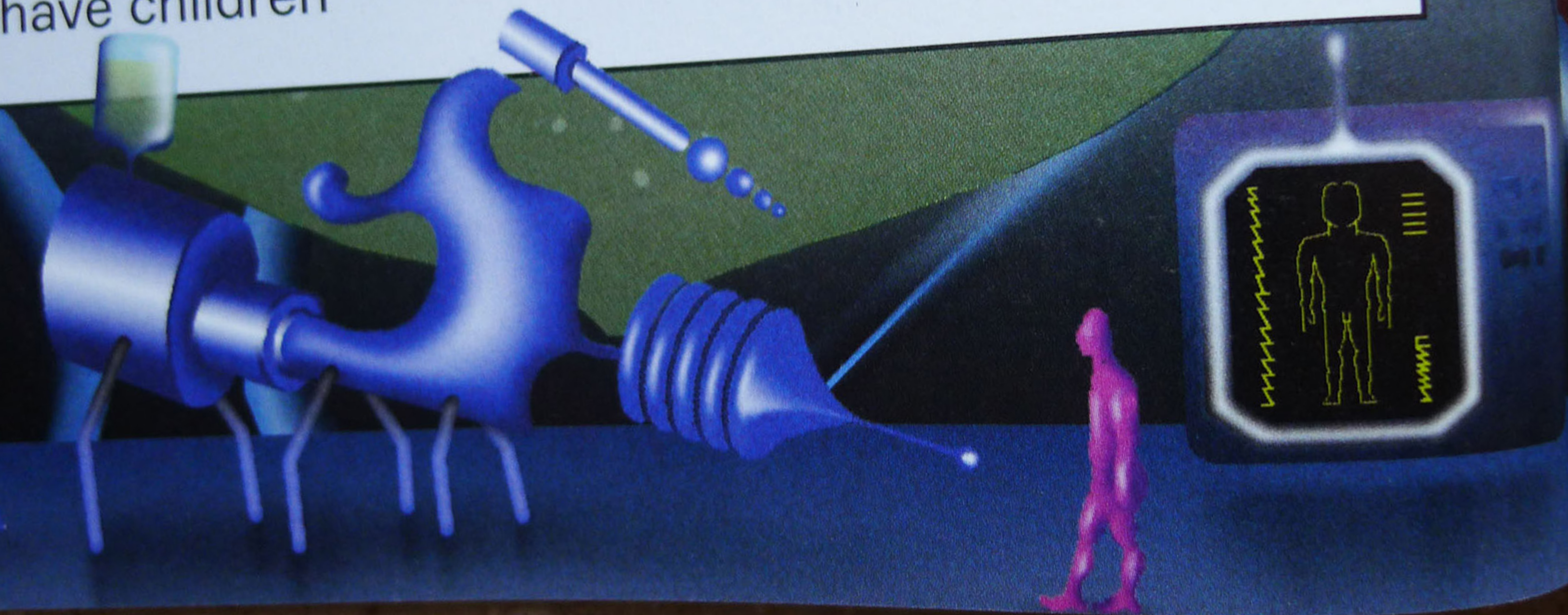
CLEANING THE HOUSE

Orangutans care for their young for two full years. For the first four months they never break physical contact, with babies clinging to their stomachs. They breastfeed until the young are five years old, the longest dependence period of all wild animals





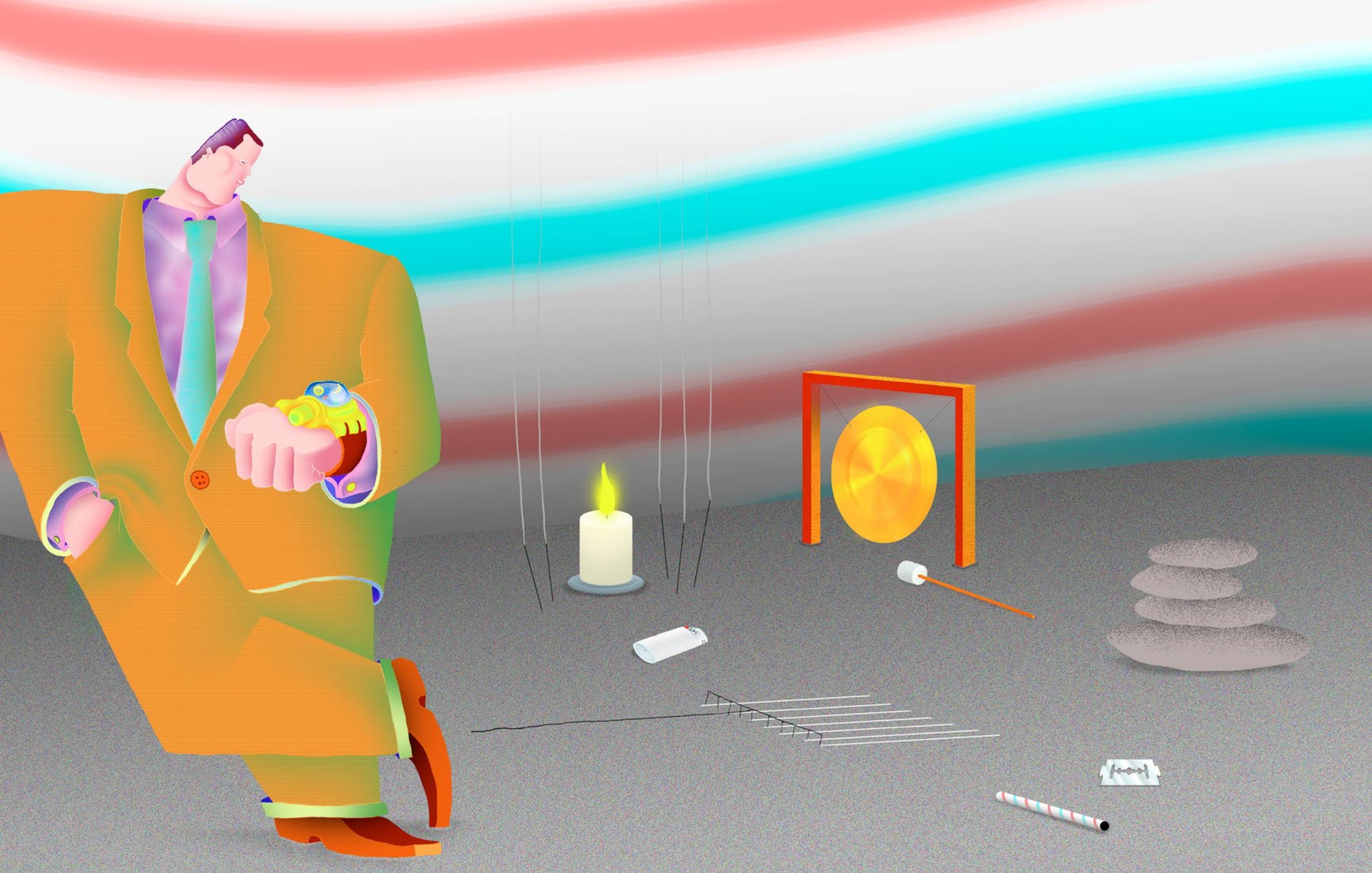
NEFITS  
n save premature babies' lives outside the womb,  
p infertile couples, provide LGBTQ+ with  
ernative fertility choices and allow older parents  
have children















»COCKTAIL ORAL«

illustration für INTERNATIONAL REVIEW, eine internationale studentische publikation für illustration

2015









»PIGSKIN«  
cover draft for a comic book, 2colored silkscreen  
2017



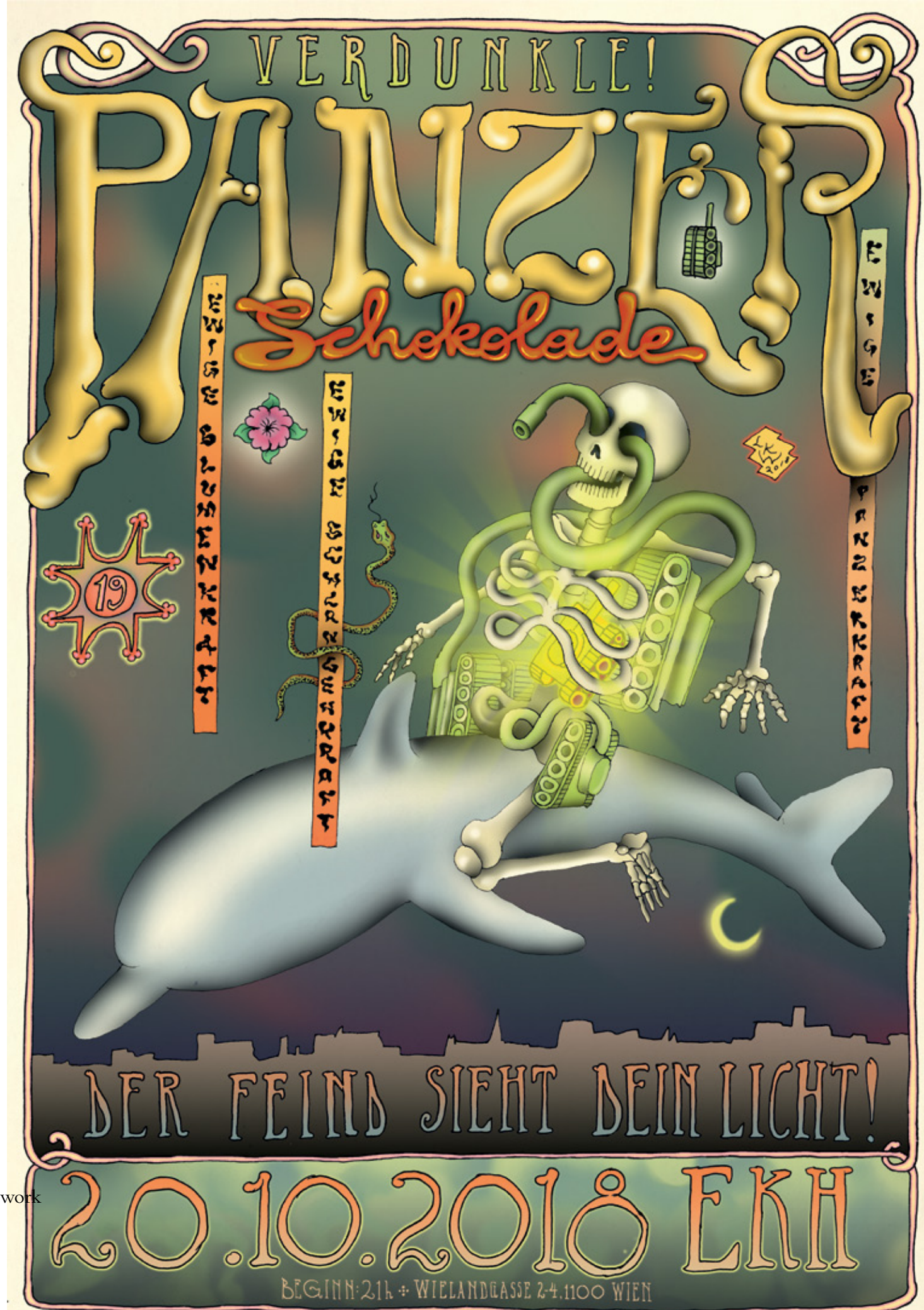


**Kyle and the Effusions "THOSE WERE THE DAYS"**  
illustration and graphic design of a recordsleeve for Hezekina Pollutina records, vienna  
**2013**

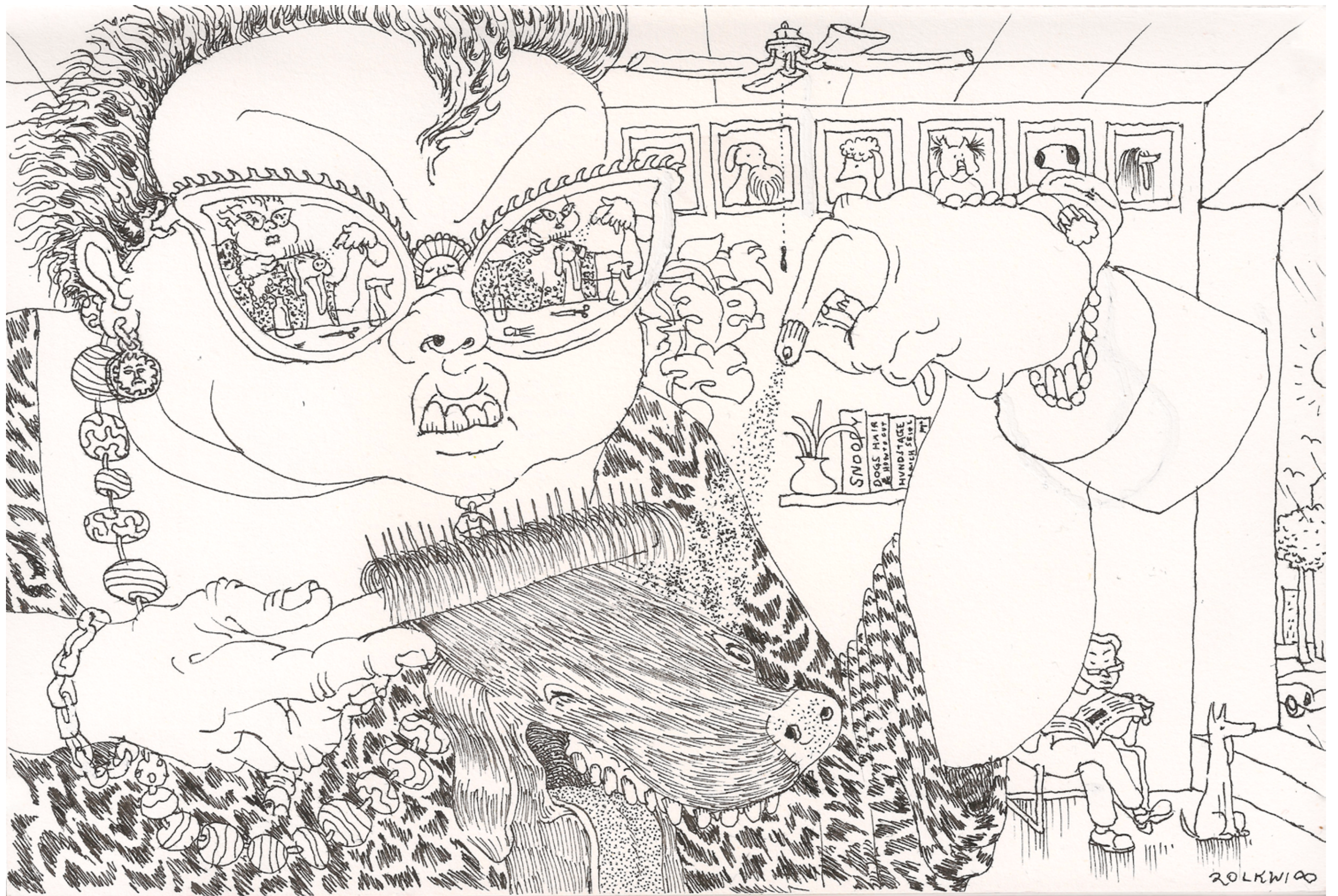


»PANZERSCHOKOLADE«

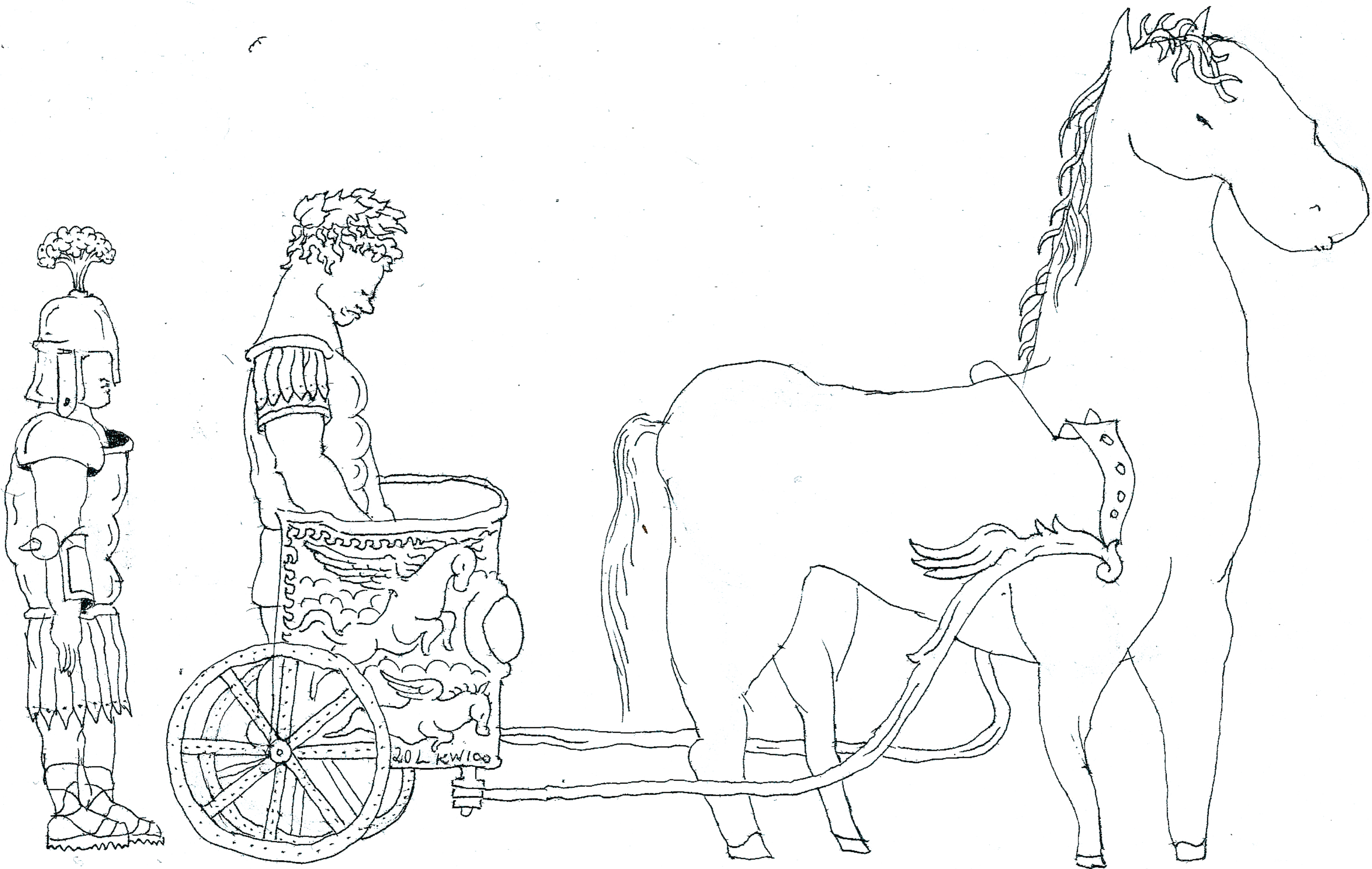
posterseries for a series of events for experimental electronic music based in vienna, austria, click [HERE](#) to see the full body of work  
since 2010



















»MEIN GROSSER TAG« ( »MY BIG DAY« )  
a childrens book for grown up's  
2014





JETZT GEHE ICH ERSTMAL EIN BISSCHEN AUF DEN  
SPIELPLATZ SCHAUKELEN.



...UND INS SPIEGELKABINETT.

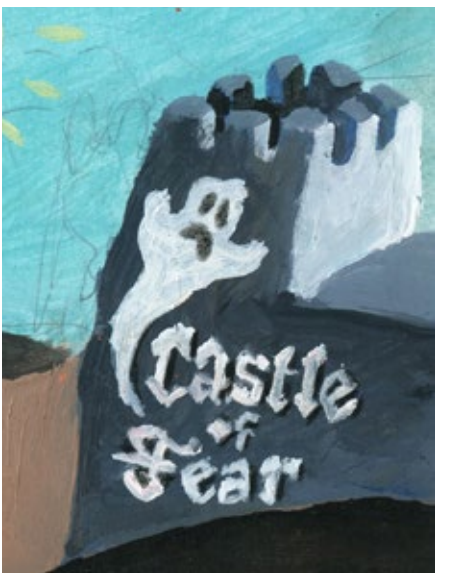
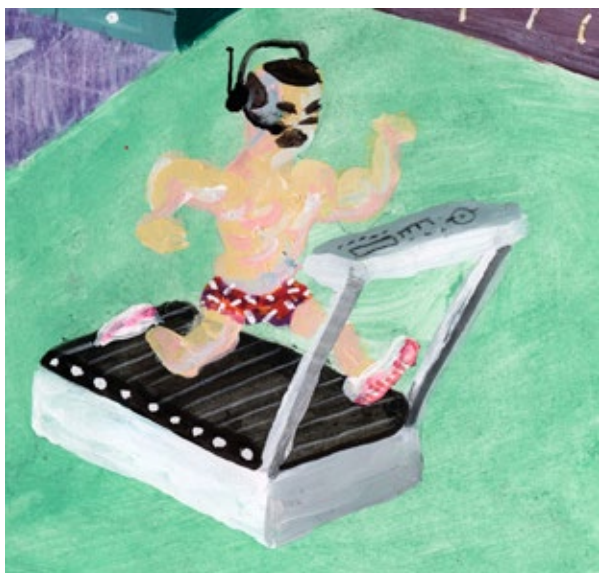


DANACH FAHREN WIR NACH HAUSE.



GLÜCKLICH UND ZUFRIEDEN SCHLAFE ICH EIN.  
WAS FÜR EIN SCHÖNER TAG. DER WIRD MIR  
IMMER IN ERINNERUNG BLEIBEN.





details from "MEIN GROSSER TAG"









excerpt from "MEIN GROSSER TAG"









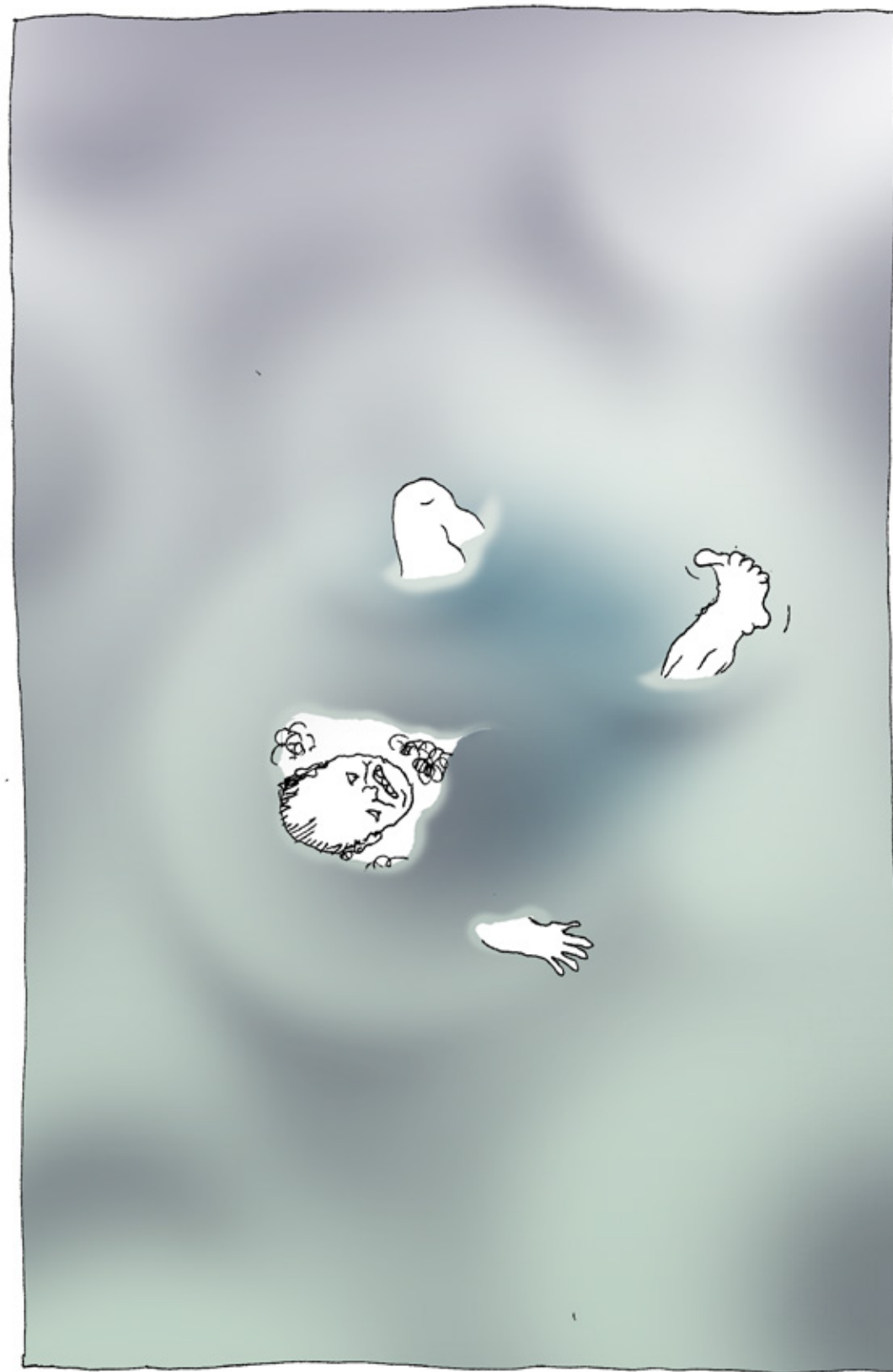








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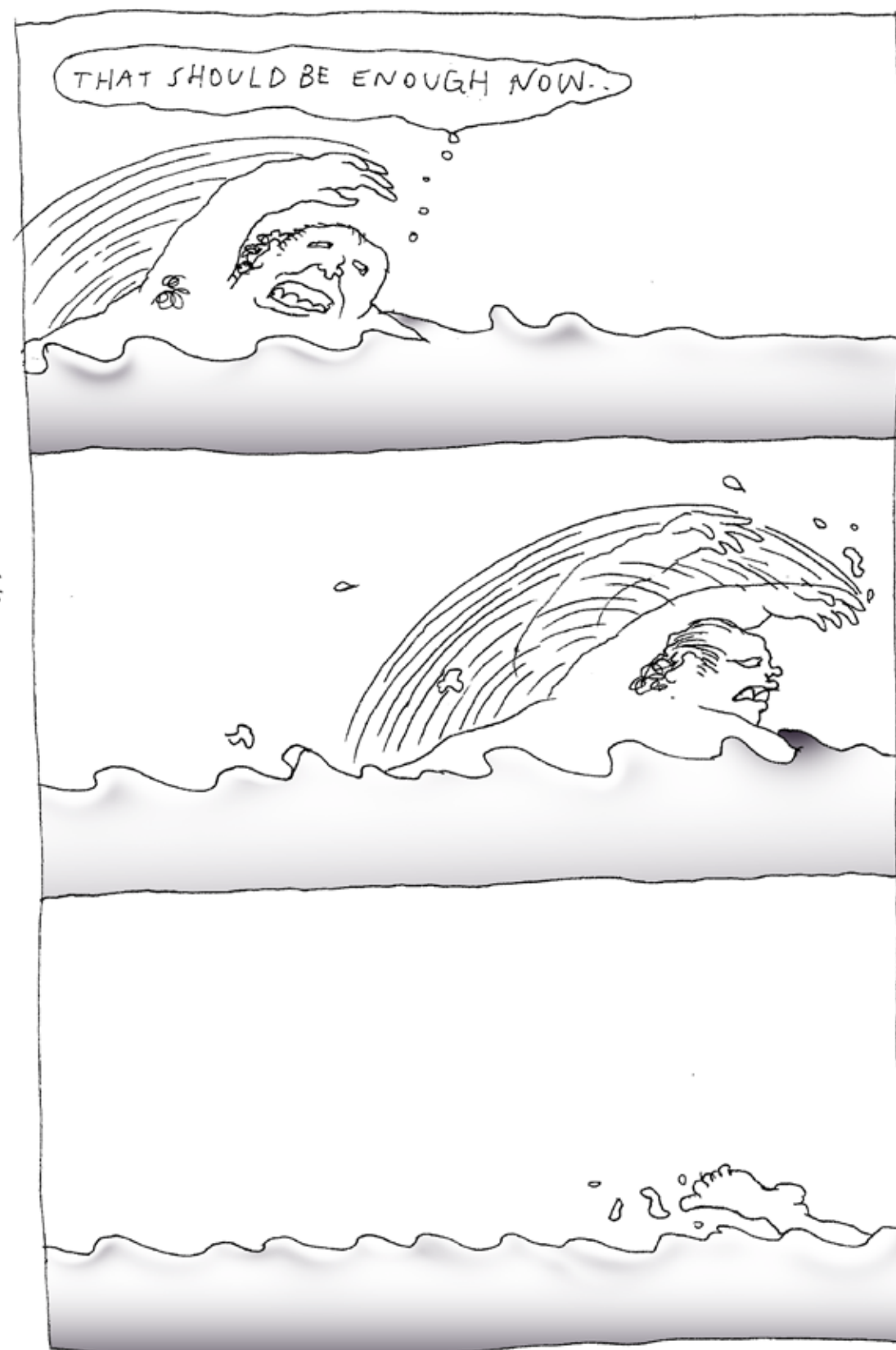
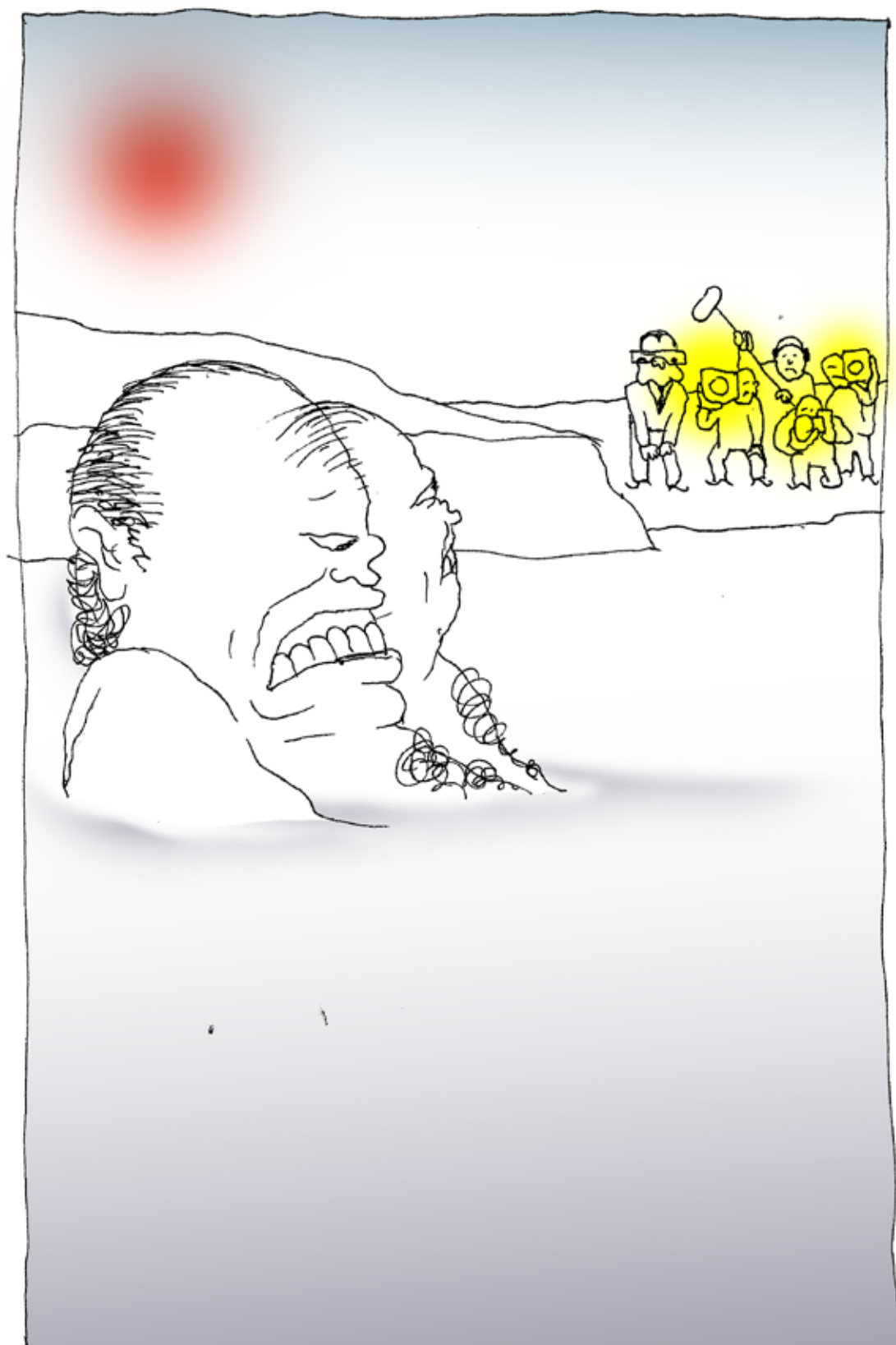
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# »GOAT GATE«

auszug einer comic-story veröffentlicht in "Š" #28, einer internationalen comic-anthologie von edition KUŠ, riga  
2017











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